Fund for Generation of Power in NER

2260. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated power requirement in the NER during the 9th Five Year Plan;

(b) the target fixed for power generation during this plan;

(c) the details of funds proposed to be granted to achieve the aforesaid targets; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The 15th Electric Power Survey Report has projected a peak demand of 1722 MW the energy requirement of 8148 MU for the North-Eastern Region (NER) by the end of Ninth Plan;

(b) The target for capacity addition for the NER during the 9th Plan is 911.5 MW. The mid term appraisal in July, 1999 has, however, estimated a feasible capacity addition of 825 MW in NER.

The targets for power generation are fixed on a year to year basis and for the NER, the targets alongwith the achievement for 1997-98 and 1999-2000 were as follows:-

(In MU)

	Target	Actual
1997-98	5225	4047
1998-99	5110	4295
1999-2000	4822	4165*

(*till 29.02.2000)

(c) and (d) The Planning Commission in the draft Ninth Plan document has provided a financial outlay of Rs.124526.41 crore for the power sector. Allocations in the Ninth Plan for NER in the State Sector are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Arunachal Pradesh	451.00
Assam	850.00
Meghalaya	312.00
Mizoram	221.59
Nagaland	115.00
Sikkim	341.00
Tripura	171.79
Manipur	312.00

For the Central Sector, the Ministry of Power spends about 10% of its gross budgetary support in NER. An amount of Rs. 288.23 crore has been spent on NER against a total revised estimate of Rs. 2679.49 crore for 1998-99. For 1999-2000, against a total gross budgetary support of Rs.2940.00 crores, an amount of Rs.300.84 crores has been provided for NER.

Government of India is giving added thrust for the development of power sector in NER and Sikkim. As many as four conferences of Power Ministers of North-Eastern Region and Sikkim have since been held since 1998 to discuss issues pertaining to the power sector in NER. Ministry of power has also taken following initiatives for NER:

(i) Power Finance Corporation is providing 1% additional subsidy on loans granted to projects in NER.

(ii) Financial assistance for improvement/strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution in NER.

(iii) An action plan for the development of Dihang and Subansiri river basins and 6 hydroelectric projects with a total capacity of 20700 MW have been planned to be developed in a phased manner. Dihang River Basin will provide for a Capacity of 13400 MW and Subansiri River Basin will provide for a capacity of 7300 MW.

(iv) Financial assistance from Government of India is proposed for setting up of Joint State Electricity Regulatory Commission for the Seven North Eastern States and Sikkim. A provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been kept for 2000-2001.